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Fig. 223. *Tri-cho-lo'-ma ter'-re-um*. See text, opposite page.

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### VOLVARIA BOMBYCINA.

*M. E. Hard.*

This is one of our most interesting plants. Its manner of growth will interest any one. The cut represents the plant when in the egg state. The volva or wrapper, mottled brown color, quite viscid. It soon breaks open at the top as will be seen in the cut. The volva has a silky appearance, but the cap or pileus is at first a purc silky white as will be seen in the figure where the volva has begun to fracture.

The plant grows quite large about Chillicothe. I frequently find it ten inches broad. It is entirely white, fleshy, at first round or oblong, then bell-shaped, then convex, everywhere silky but when old it is apt to be hairy scaled. The flesh is rather thin and white.

The gills are not attached to the stem and very close together, broader in the center, flesh color as soon as the spores begin to drop.

The stem three to six inches long, solid, smooth, white, tapering from the base to apex.

The volva is soon split at the apex, membranaceous, viscid and persistent. The spores are elliptical.

It is usually found solitary, but sometimes a number will be found growing from the same log. I have frequently seen a dozen growing from a hollow beech log where the plants in Figure 224 were found. It is found growing in hollow trees, on decayed shade trees, or on decayed branches in the woods. I have never eaten it but Dr. Curtis gives it as edible in his list of edible mushrooms. It is found from July to October. I found a specimen that measured eight inches across the cap Saturday, September 29, 1906.



Fig. 224. *Volva-ri-a bom-by-ci-na*. The egg-state of the plant when in the act of emerging from the *volva*. The pileus and flesh-colored gills are not yet visible. The photo represents two fine plants close together, found growing from a hollow beech log, near Chillicothe, Ohio. See text on previous page.

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